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but, once more, outside of this solution, what is proposed? Nothing, not a single suggestion, not an hypothesis. The only effort is to gain time, without advantage from it. Our scruples and our patience are tried with great utterances, which are perverted. We are reminded of this word, so natural, of the Emperor of Germany, "The future is on the water." But it is forgotten to add that in pronouncing it the Emperor had also in view commercial navigation, maritime and fluvial, and not the war marine only. We ask that this word be applied in France, in its true sense, to the benefit of our exchanges, of our commerce, and not to justify new unproductive expenses. Otherwise, we must change a word in the imperial sentence and no longer say "the future," but "Shipwreck is on the water."

I have finished, gentlemen, and I thank the Senate for the extreme goodwill with which it has followed me in this dry exposé.

Several Senators on the left: No, it is very interesting.

Mr. d'Estournelles de Constant: I conclude: Let us cease to close our ears to the repeated indirect propositions of England for a limitation of armaments. Let us cease to ignore so pressing a question. Let us hasten rather to have it studied in common by the two countries. This fact of itself would produce in the entire world an incalculable effect. It would be the door opened to progress in a domain hitherto closed to reason. It would be the beginning of a general organization which all the peoples are interested to have substituted for the present anarchy.

Mr. Le Cour Grandmaison: It would be a terrestrial paradise.

Mr. d'Estournelles de Constant: No; I do not ask for anything excessive. I do not even ask for a reduction of the naval expenses of Europe. I shall content myself with an arrest of their increase, and I believe that a general arrest would result from an agreement between France and England. I believe, also, that we shall be inexcusable if we do not attempt to secure this. I see in the attempt immense advantages and not a single inconvenience. It would be preferable, in any event, to the obscurities of our present policy.

Such, gentlemen, is the conviction which I bring you, after a life almost entirely devoted to the same end, to the desire to bring into harmony—for the honor and benefit of France—the goodwills which exist everywhere and are trying to get together, but which are kept apart by ignorance alone. [Cries of "Good!" on the left.]

The Senate can exert much influence upon the public mind, and thereby upon the action of the government. Nobody disputes this to-day. The great services which it has rendered by its initiative and its firmness in days of difficulty have won for it popular respect and confidence. It is by the success of its recent initiatives that I measure the probable results of those which remain for it to take. This time it is not the country alone, it is the world whose gratitude it may win. Yes, a favorable indication given by the generous wisdom of the Senate to the hesitating governments would be their deliverance, their salvation. It would find a response in the Chamber of Deputies and in all other parliaments. Once more, the Senate would have served the republic and the country, but it would also at the same time have deserved well of the whole civilized world.

The New Age.

BY FREDERICK LAWRENCE KNOWLES.

When navies are forgotten
And fleets are useless things,
When the dove shall warm her bosom
Beneath the eagle's wings,

When memory of battles
At last is strange and old,
When nations have one banner
And creeds have found one fold,

When the Hand that sprinkles midnight
With its powdered drift of suns
Has hushed this tiny tumult
Of sects and swords and guns;

Then Hate's last note of discord
In all God's worlds shall cease,
In the conquest which is service,
In the victory which is peace!

— In Love Triumphant.

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